



*Council of Commissioners of **Riverside** School Board*

*Minutes of the proceedings of a **regular** session of the Council of Commissioners for Riverside School Board held at the Administration Centre, 299 Sir-Wilfrid-Laurier Blvd., St. Lambert, Québec on **September 16, 2008.***

The Secretary General established that quorum was met and Chairman Moira Bell, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

M. Bell	H. Dumont	L. Llewelyn Cuffling
P. Booth Morrison	D. Gareau	N. Nichols
K. Cameron	M. Gour	S. Rasmussen
A. Capobianco Skipworth	D. Guerriero	G. Sastre
M. Cloutier	D. Horrocks	D. Smith
P. D'Avignon	D. Lamoureux	PARENT – M. Brazier
	M. L'Heureux	

Also present

Kevin Lukian, Director General
Denise Paulson, Secretary General
François Pesant, Interim Director of Financial Resources
Pierre Farmer, Director of Material Resources & Technology
Michel La Rue, Director of Human Resources
Maria Nasso-Maselli, Director of Elementary Schools
Gail Somerville, Director of Complementary Services
Presence noted Julie Ruel, Sophie Compagna, Michel Gagnon, Denis La Rocque, Ruby Mace

Regrets F. Blais, T. Neal
Stephen Lessard, Assistant Director General

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner P. D'Avignon, and seconded by Commissioner M. L'Heureux, that the agenda be adopted.

UNANIMOUS

PUBLIC QUESTIONS :

- Michel Gagnon, President of the Riverside Teachers' Union, stated that he had been asked to bring teachers' concerns regarding the English language mathematics textbooks to the attention of Council;
- The Director General responded that two of three pathways have been fully translated and the third is being delivered as each chapter is completed. He acknowledged that teachers felt the content was too advanced and that the matter would be pursued with colleagues in the other English school boards at the DG and DES levels.
- Michel Gagnon asked what measures of security would be in place for the schools being utilized as polling stations in the federal elections of October 14, 2008.
- The Director General responded that security people will be in the schools to ensure the safety of Riverside students and staff.
- Denis La Rocque, parent, expressed his concern about the lack of textbooks and felt it was unfair that the burden of photocopying costs should fall on the schools.
- The Director General indicated that the provision of English textbooks was a priority for the Minister who has publicly acknowledged that there has been a problem in this area. The Ministry's willingness to rectify the situation is appreciated.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AUGUST 19, 2008:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner P. D'Avignon, and seconded by Commissioner P. Morrison, that the Minutes of the meeting held August 19, 2008 be adopted.

UNANIMOUS

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Director General followed up:

- Proposed Capital Projects 2008-2009 will be sent to MELS before September 30th deadline
- A reply was made to Denis La Rocque regarding the upcoming Governing Board Training

CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR GENERAL

Chair's report – M. Bell

- Attended a corn roast at Cedar Street
- Represented RSB at a meeting with F. Houda-Pépin and the Minister of Education, Michelle Courchesne
- Attended the School Needs Project Awards at a live taping of CBC radio's Homerun show
- Attended presentation of \$5000 award to REACH from the S'Cool Life Fund

Director General's report – K. Lukian

- Results from the latest Commonwealth Essay Competition – 5 students from CRHS, 5 from Chambly Academy and 2 from St. Johns received Commended awards; 1 student from CA and 1 from HRHS received Highly Commended; Karina Brundl, St. Mary's Elementary received a Commonwealth Prize. Congratulations to all students and their teachers.
- REACH received a \$5,000 grant from the S'Cool Life Fund for their schoolyard project.
- A Townhall on Future Directions for RSB will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at HRHS.
- One Secondary 4 student was expelled from HRHS and three students were reinstated on September 2 (2 to CRHS and 1 to HRHS).

Parents' Committee – M. Brazier:

- The first Parent Committee meeting will be held on October 6 at the Administration Centre.
- No resolution has yet been presented to disaffiliate from FCPQ.
- Request made that e-mail accounts for all parent representatives be up and running by October 6th
- A request was made to receive a copy of the proposed schedule for policy development for 08-09
- Concerns were expressed about the closure of St. Jude School on September 15th because of a power outage.
- Concerns were expressed about Math textbooks
- The Parent Committee will decide at its first meeting about school visits
- Reference was made to St. Lawrence School

REPORTS (non-voting items only)

Executive - L. Cuffling:

- Met on September 9, 2008
- Elected Chair: Lesley Cuffling
- Elected Vice-Chair: Dawn Smith
- Reviewed proposed schedule for policy development for 08-09

- Reviewed Draft By-Law 13 : Delegation of Authority to School Principals & Centre Director
- Authorized payment for Itinerant instructional services received from the Montreal Oral School for the Deaf. The services are for Riverside students with identified hearing impairments. The amount is \$90,505
- Authorized payment for Instructional services to be provided by Giant Steps, Kells Academy, Montreal Oral School for the Deaf, Peter Hall School, Vanguard School and Summit School. The total amount is \$434,242
- The Executive Committee met again on Sept 16 at 7:00 p.m. to review requests received from Commissioners Cloutier and Rasmussen regarding Professional Development. Both requests were approved.

Transportation Advisory - L. Cuffling:

- None

Communication – M. Cloutier:

- Committee met on September 2 and 9
- On-going projects include an information kit for PPOs to apply for MNA discretionary funds; school profile template
- Currently in the process of gathering information for the annual report
- Thanks to the Executive Committee for approving PD requests to CACE (Canadian Association of Communicators in Education)
- Next meeting is at the call of the Chair.

Education – D. Gareau:

- None

Financial and Material Resources - P. Morrison:

- Met on September 9th
- Recommending an increase in the mileage rate: from 45 to 48 cents/km based on CAA figures and a comparative study of 20 other school boards
- Reviewed summer projects: 95-100% completed
- Reviewed memo to schools on air quality
- Next meeting is at the call of the Chair

Human Resources - G. Sastre:

- None

Lifelong Learning and Career Education Committee (LLACE)-D. Smith:

- None

QESBA – D. Horrocks:

- Met on September 12
- Reviewed audited statements
- PD/AGM planned for October 24-25, 2008
- Will be held at Hôtel des Gouverneurs in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu
- RSB is hosting meet and greet on Friday evening
- CSBA will provide entertainment on Friday evening
- Plenary session on Saturday on Bill 88 and 4 workshops in the morning
- AGM in the afternoon

- QESBA will have a representative on Board of Directors of LEARN
- CSBA conference is being held in Regina
- Bill 104: recently filed in Supreme Court. QESBA is waiting to hear about intervenor status
- Resolutions before Council this evening for the Board of Directors and the Voting Delegates
- Next meeting on October 24, 2008

Safe and Caring Schools Committee – K. Cameron

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Special Needs Advisory Committee – M. Gour:

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Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Steering Committee – M. L'Heureux:

Commissioner L'Heureux expressed his belief that the working committees would ensure that the Board's Strategic Plan would move forward and this Steering Committee would report to Council at least once a year

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution B244-20080916

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AT GREENFIELD PARK PRIMARY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

WHEREAS a resolution passed by Riverside School Board in 1998 establishes the composition of the Governing Boards for elementary schools with more than 501 students and a daycare service at nine (9) parents, six (6) teachers, two (2) non-teaching staff members and one (1) daycare staff member;

WHEREAS the building housing Greenfield Park Primary International School is shared by Riverside School Board and Commission scolaire Marie-Victorin;

WHEREAS there is only one (1) Governing Board at Greenfield Park Primary International School;

WHEREAS the principal and vice-principal have consulted the groups concerned, as required by the Education Act;

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Rasmussen, seconded by Commissioner Lamoureux, that the composition of the Governing Board at Greenfield Park Primary International School be established at four (4) parents from each school board for a total of eight (8), three (3) Riverside School Board teachers, four (4) Commission scolaire Marie-Victorin teachers, one (1) Riverside School Board daycare staff member and two (2) non-voting community representatives.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B245-20080916

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Sastre, and seconded by Commissioner Smith, that Commissioners Capobianco Skipworth, Rasmussen, Nichols, Gour, Gareau and Cuffling be appointed to the Education Committee for the 2008-2009 school year.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B246-20080916

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Brazier, and seconded by Commissioner Cameron, that Commissioners

Cuffling, Morrison, Lamoureux and D'Avignon be appointed to the Financial and Material Resources Committee for the 2008-2009 school year.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B247-20080916

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Cuffling, and seconded by Commissioner D'Avignon, that Commissioners Sastre, Dumont, Guerriero and Horrocks, be appointed to the Human Resources Committee for the 2008-2009 school year.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B248-20080916

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE LIFELONG LEARNING AND CAREER EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Morrison, and seconded by Commissioner Dumont, that Commissioners Smith, Cameron, Cloutier and Nichols be appointed to the LLACE for the 2008-2009 school year.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B249-20080916

APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Cameron, and seconded by Commissioner Guerriero, that Commissioner M. Gour be appointed to represent the Council at the Special Needs Advisory Committee for the 2008-2009 school year.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B250-20080916

RENEWAL OF THE MANDATE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE AND APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS:

WHEREAS the mandate of the Communications Committee is to:

- Promote the visibility of school board commissioners in the community at large;
- Improve communication among members of the Riverside community including board and school administrators, commissioners, teachers, parents, tax payers, and electors; and, in cooperation with board and school administrators;
- Focus primarily on the following:
 - Raising the level of awareness of the role and function of school boards;
 - Raising the level of awareness of the role of commissioners;
 - Improving communication with the general public to better promote Riverside schools, centers and services.

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Cloutier and seconded by Commissioner Horrocks that the mandate of the Communications Committee be renewed for the 2008-2009 school year and that the following commissioners be appointed as members: Commissioner M. Cloutier, Commissioner S. Rasmussen, Commissioner M. L'Heureux, Commissioner D. Gareau, Commissioner H. Dumont, Commissioner D. Horrocks, Commissioner A. Capobianco, commissioner Guerriero.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B251-20080916

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE SAFE AND CARING SCHOOLS COMMITTEE:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Cuffling that the mandate of the Safe and Caring Schools Committee be renewed by the committee for the 2008-2009 school year and submitted to Council that the following commissioners be appointed as members:

Commissioner K. Cameron
Commissioner L. Cuffling
Commissioner N. Nichols
Commissioner P. D'Avignon
Commissioner A. Capobianco

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B252-20080916

ASSIGNMENT OF MANDATE TO THE AD HOC STRATEGIC PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE AND APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS:

WHEREAS the Strategic Plan 2008-2011 for Riverside School Board was adopted by Resolution B237-20080708;

WHEREAS the commissioner-members of the Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Steering Committee have been closely involved in the development of the 2008-2011 Strategic Plan;

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner D'Avignon and seconded by Commissioner Sastre that the Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Steering Committee remain in place for the 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years and that it report to Council at least once a year on the implementation of the Strategic Plan; and

FURTHERMORE, that the following commissioners be appointed as members:

Commissioner A. Capobianco Skipworth
Commissioner H. Dumont
Commissioner D. Gareau
Commissioner M. L'Heureux
Commissioner L. Cuffling

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B253-20080916

NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE QESBA:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Dumont, and seconded by Commissioner Cuffling, that Commissioners Horrocks and D'Avignon be nominated to the Board of Directors of the Quebec English School Boards Association.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B254-20080916

VOTING DELEGATES - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF QESBA:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner L'Heureux, and seconded by Commissioner Sastre, that the following commissioners be voting delegates at the 2008-2009 Annual General Meeting of the QESBA to be held on October 25, 2008 and that each delegate have the number of votes indicated below:

Commissioner D. Guerriero – 2 votes
Commissioner P. D'Avignon – 2 votes
Commissioner S. Rasmussen – 2 votes
Commissioner A. Capobianco Skipworth – 2 votes
Commissioner L. Llewelyn Cuffling – 2 votes

Commissioners K. Cameron, N. Nichols and M. Bell serving as alternates.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution F68-20080916

INCREASE IN THE RATE OF MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES:

WHEREAS the rate for reimbursement of work related travel expenses has been set at 45 cents per kilometer since September 1st, 2005;

WHEREAS the price of fuel has increased significantly and employee associations of the school board have expressed concerns;

WHEREAS the Financial and Material Resources Committee has reviewed the situation and recommends an increase in the current rate;

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Cuffling, and seconded by Commissioner Lamoureux, that the rate for reimbursement of work related travel expenses be increased to 48 cents per kilometer effective July 1st, 2008 and that this rate be applicable to all Riverside School Board personnel;

OPPOSED 8
IN FAVOUR 9
CARRIED

Resolution HR183-20080916

RECALL TO ANOTHER SCHOOL BOARD OF A TEACHER ON AVAILABILITY:

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner Dumont, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, that **Roxana Reyes-Arevalo** be recalled, from our list of teachers on availability, to Lester B. Pearson School Board, effective August 26, 2008.

UNANIMOUS

Resolution B255-20080916

NOMINATION OF A CANDIDATE FOR A POSITION ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CÉGEP SAINT-JEAN SUR-RICHELIEU

GIVEN that the mandate of the school board representative on the Board of Directors of Cégep Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu will expire shortly;

GIVEN that the Minister of Education, Recreation and Sports, Mrs. Michelle Courchesne, in her September 9, 2008 letter to the Chairman, Mrs. Moira Bell, is asking that names of candidates to fill the position be forwarded to her;

IT IS MOVED by Commissioner L'Heureux and seconded by Commissioner Morrison, that Commissioner Pierre D'Avignon's name be proposed as a candidate.

UNANIMOUS

OTHER BUSINESS

Correspondence - As listed in Appendix "A" to these Minutes. Copies available to the public.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS :

- Denis La Rocque asked for more information about MNAs discretionary funds. Commissioner L'Heureux responded that the project was in development and would be shared with the appropriate groups as soon as it was ready.
- Ruby Mace, President of SEPB Local, expressed her dismay at the discussion related to the increase in the mileage rate. The Director General noted that the Finance and Material Resources Committee would be undertaking a full review of the Policy on the Reimbursement of Expenses this fall.

ROUND OF APPLAUSE

- Appreciation was expressed for the marketing items distributed in conjunction with the launch of the Healthy Living Policy.
- Commissioner Rasmussen thanked the members of the Executive Committee for authorizing her professional development request.
- Commissioner Brazier expressed thanks to all members of the Council and informed them that, for personal reasons, he had decided not to run for re-election. He mentioned that he had thoroughly enjoyed his experience as a member of Council.

CLOSING:

IT WAS MOVED by Commissioner Gour, and seconded by Commissioner Lamoureux, at 9:20 p.m., that the meeting be closed.

Moira Bell, Chairman

Denise Paulson, Secretary General

CORRESPONDENCE - RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BOARD

08.09.16

FROM	TO	SUBJECT
Camil Bouchard, Député de Vachon/MNA	Letter to the Chairman	Invitation
Frédéric Leclerc, <i>Leclerc Architectes</i>	Letter to the Chairman	Thank you letter
Commission scolaire Lester-B. Pearson/Lester B. Pearson School Board	Letter to the Chairman	Inauguration of a new wing of the International Language Centre
Madame M. Ford/Mrs. M. Ford, Saint-Hubert	Letter to the Secretary General	School taxes
MRC de Lajemmerais	Letter to the office of the Secretary General	School board and municipal elections
Michelle Courchesne, MELS	Letter to the Chairman	Representative mandate
Camil Bouchard, Député de Vachon/MNA	Letter to the Chairman	Invitation